

Message Text

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AMEMBASSY PARIS

NSE/NSSG BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 3874

E.O. 11652: GDS: 12-31-80

TAGS: NATO, XG, ETRN

SUBJ: ANNUAL CENTRAL EUROPE PIPELINE SYSTEM (CEPS) REPORT TO
COUNCIL FOR 1972

DEFENSE FOR OASD/I&L, MR. NOLAN AND COMPT, MR. UMBARGER; STATE
FOR EUR/RPM, MR. REHFELD; JCS FOR J-4 PETROLEUM; USCINCEUR FOR
J-4 JPO; AMEMB PARIS FOR MR. HUMPHREYS; NSE/NSSG FOR MR. MINER.

REF: A. USNATO 0925

1. SECRETARY GENERAL BY PO 74/92 DATED 10 JULY 1974 HAS FORWARDED
TO COUNCIL THE CEPS ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1972 WHICH CENTRAL EUROPE
PIPELINE POLICY COMMITTEE (CEPPC) NOTED AT ITS FEBRUARY 1974
MEETING (REPORTED IN REF A). CEPS REPORT FOR 1972 CONTAINED IN
AC/120-D/838 DATED 28 JAN 74.

2. MISSION INTENDS TO NOTE REPORT UNDER 15 DAYS SILENCE
PROCEDURE AS REQUESTED BY SEC GEN. TEXT OF SEC GEN COVER MEMO
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FOLLOWS:

QUOTE:

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE CHARTER OF THE CENTRAL EUROPE PIPELINE SYSTEM (CEPS)(1), ITS DIRECTING BODIES, THE CENTRAL EUROPE PIPELINE POLICY COMMITTEE (CEPPC) AND THE CENTRAL EUROPE PIPELINE OFFICE (CEPO) HAVE JOINTLY SUBMITTED THE ANNUAL REPORT WHICH WILL BE FOUND AT ANNEX, GIVING A SUMMARY ACCOUNT OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CEPS FOR 1972 AND A BRIEF FORECAST FOR 1973.

2. THE COUNCIL WILL NOTE FROM THE REPORT THAT, AS FORECAST IN THE PRECEDING YEAR, THE LEVEL OF ACTIVITY OF THE SYSTEM SHOWED A MARKED INCREASE. TRAFFIC ROSE BY OVER 13 PCT COMPARED WITH 1971, THIS INCREASE BEING ALMOST ENTIRELY ACCOUNTED FOR BY ADDITIONAL MOVEMENTS OF PRODUCTS FOR OTHER THAN NATO MILITARY PURPOSES. THIS TREND HAS CONTINUED DURING 1973, THOUGH AT A SLIGHTLY LOWER RATE OF INCREASE; ACTIVITY IN 1974 WILL BE ADVERSELY AFFECTED BY THE ENERGY CRISIS AND OTHER FACTORS.

3. THE OPERATING COSTS OF THE SYSTEM ROSE SIGNIFICANTLY DURING 1972, PARTICULARLY WAGES AND SALARIES. HOWEVER, AS A CONSEQUENCE OF INCREASES IN BOTH THE MILITARY AND NON-MILITARY TARIFFS AND IN THE VOLUME OF NON-MILITARY TRAFFIC, THE SHORT-FALL BETWEEN EXPENDITURES AND RECEIPTS WAS KEPT AT ABOUT THE SAME LEVEL AS IN 1971 AND, EXPRESSED AS A PERCENTAGE, WAS REDUCED FROM 28 PCT TO 25 PCT. CLOSE FINANCIAL CONTROL AND THE SEARCH FOR GREATER COST-EFFECTIVENESS HAS KEPT THE SITUATION IN HAND FOR 1973, BUT 1974 WILL BE MORE DIFFICULT.

(1) C-M(65)49, CHAPTER III, PARAGRAPH 42

4. IN VIEW OF THE RISING PERSONNEL COSTS, STRESS IS BEING PLACED ON MODERNIZATION OF VARIOUS PART OF THE SYSTEM TO HELP KEEP DOWN THE NUMBERS EMPLOYED. AS A RESULT, IN 1972, DESPITE THE ACTIVATION OF NEW INSTALLATIONS AND THE GREATER OVERALL ACTIVITY OF THE SYSTEM, THE INCREASE IN PERSONNEL STRENGTH WAS LESS THAN 2 PCT.
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5. THE GENERAL IMPRESSION IS THAT THE SYSTEM HAS KEPT UP ITS HIGH STANDARD OF EFFICIENCY IN OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE AND BY PROVIDING USEFUL SERVICES IN PEACETIME IS ENSURING, AT A VERY LOW NET COST, THAT THIS MILITARY PIPELINE FACILITY IS READY FOR EMERGENCY OR WARTIME USE. THIS READINESS IS ONLY LIMITED BY THE CONTINUING UNCERTAINTY OVER THE STATUS OF CIVILIAN PERSONNEL IN WARTIME.

6. THE COUNCIL IS INVITED TO EXAMINE THIS REPORT AND IF NO DELEGATION HAS RAISED OBJECTIONS WITHIN FIFTEEN DAYS THE COUNCIL WILL BE DEEMED TO HAVE TAKEN NOTE OF IT.

(SIGNED) JOSEPH M.A.H. LUNS

END QUOTE.RUMSFELD

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